GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7725
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2002
FORMULATION OF AGRO MARKETING STRATEGY
PRAKASH V. PATIL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a comprehensive scheme for marketing agro produce including cereals and non farm rural products in view of the implementation of WTO agreements;

(b) if so, whether private participation in these regulated markets is contemplated;

(c) whether similar efforts have been made by States such as Karnataka, Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(e) the details in this matter thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI PRADHAN)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): An Expert Committee on Strengthening and Developing of AgriculturalMarketing appointed by Government of India has in its report inter-alia recommended involvement of private sector in development of marketing infrastructure. The Expert Committee has also recommended involvement of cooperatives as also the joint sector, farmers, organization, self help groups, etc. in many areas of agricultural marketing. An Inter-Ministerial Task Force has been constituted by the Government in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to examine the recommendations and suggest measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Committee. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also beenrequested to examine the recommendations of the Expert Committee and provide their feedback to the Task Force on the implementation of the recommendations.

Government of Karnataka has amended the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act, 1966 to facilitate setting up of integrated marketing of fruit and vegetables by National Diary Development Board (NDDB).The NDDB is accordingly developing fruits and vegetables markets at Bangalore. Information in respect of other states is not available.